

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 04803 240930Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 INT-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 FCSC-01 /080 W
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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6431
INFO CINCPACREP GUAM PRIORITY
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 04803

CINCPACREP PASS STATUS LNO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV JA TQ US
SUBJECT: MICRONESIAN WAR CLAIMS

REF: A. STATE 074851; B. TOKYO 04483 (NOTAL);
C. STATE 067584 (NOTAL)

1. IN MEETING WITH EMBOFF MARCH 20 (REFS A & B), FIRST
NORTH AMERICA DIVDIR KOJI WATANABE SAID THAT IF
MICRONESIAN WAR CLAIMS DELEGATION WERE TO GO TO WASHINGTON
BEFORE TOKYO, HE FELT WASHINGTON, BASED ON 1969 US-JAPAN
AGREEMENT, "SHOULD BE ABLE TO DISCOURAGE DELEGATION'S
VISIT TO TOKYO." EMBOFF INFORMED WATANABE, ALONG LINES
REF C PARA 2, THAT THERE WAS POSSIBILITY DELEGATION MIGHT
BE GOING TO WASHINGTON BEFORE TOKYO, BUT THAT SINCE WE
WERE NOT CERTAIN, WE HAD ASKED SAIPAN FOR CLARIFICATION.
WATANABE SAID GOJ HAD ASSUMED THAT DELEGATION WOULD COME
TO TOKYO BEFORE WASHINGTON TO CONFIRM THAT GOJ WOULD NOT
REOPEN NEGOTIATIONS. THINKING WAS THAT AFTER MICRONESIANS
RECEIVED THIS CONFIRMATION, THEY WOULD THEN PROCEED TO
WASHINGTON AND ASK U.S. CONGRESS FOR ASSISTANCE. WATANABE
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CONCLUDED THAT IF DELEGATION ACTUALLY GOING TO WASHINGTON
FIRST, THERE WAS "NO POINT IN ITS COMING TO TOKYO." HE
DID NOT SAY, HOWEVER, THAT IN SUCH EVENT GOJ WOULD NOT
RECEIVE DELEGATION.

2. REPORT OF EMBOFF STATEMENT REF A PARA 2 THAT DEPARTMENT
"DID NOT CONSIDER IT WISE TO ALLOW OUR RELATIONS WITH

MICRONESIANS TO DETERIORATE FOR SAKE OF 20-ODD MILLION DOLLARS AND OUR INCLINATION WAS THEREFORE TO FACILITATE VISITS" IS INACCURATE. AS WATANABE WAS VISIBLY UPSET OVER POSSIBILITY DELEGATION MIGHT GO TO WASHINGTON FIRST, EMBOFF EXPLAINED ALONG LINES REF C PARAS 1 AND 4 THAT BECAUSE OF PASSAGE OF PL95-134, COUPLED WITH OUR OBLIGATION TO REPRESENT MICRONESIAN FOREIGN POLICY INTERESTS, USG IN END WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO FACILITATE VISIT OF MICRONESIAN DELEGATION TO TOKYO. WATANABE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND WHY USG SHOULD FACILITATE. AT THIS POINT, HE HANDED EMBOFF COPY OF STATE DEPARTMENT OCTOBER 15, 1977 PRESS GUIDANCE ON MICRONESIAN CLAIMS ISSUE, AND SAID IT WOULD BE INCONSISTENT WITH U.S. POLICY AS ENUNCIATED IN PRESS GUIDANCE TO FACILITATE SUCH A MISSION.

3. COMMENT: FROM HERE, IT APPEARS THAT MAIN FACTOR LEADING TO WATANABE CABLE AND ARIMA DEMARCHE (REF A) WAS WATANABE'S PERCEPTION THAT USG "FACILITATION" OF MISSION CARRIED WITH IT IMPLICATION OF US SUPPORT FOR MICRONESIAN CLAIMS AND AS SUCH INDICATED SHIFT IN U.S. POLICY ON CLAIMS ISSUE. WATANABE ALSO ASSUMED THAT MICRONESIAN TRAVEL PLANS WERE MORE DEFINITE THAN THEY WERE AT THAT TIME.

4. WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED STATUS LNO 126, HOWEVER, STATING
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THAT WHILE WAR CLAIMS COMMISSIONS HAD NOT YET FIXED DATES FOR VISIT TO TOKYO, THEY WERE AT LAST REPORT PLANNING TO VISIT WASHINGTON FIRST. WE PLAN TO BREAK NEWS TO WATANABE GENTLY, AND SHOULD THEREBY OBTAIN CLARIFICATION ON WHETHER OR NOT GOJ WILL RECEIVE MISSION. MANSFIELD

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